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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Our ref: **FOI 24-202**

Wednesday 15 February 2024

Thank you for your emails to Aneurin Bevan University Health Board for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), requesting the following information. Each request received is outlined in the table below.

Our Reference	Date Received	Detail of request
FOI 23-552	20/10/2023	<p>Scope last two years.</p> <p>Could you please provide the data of name of any external company/s used by ABUHB employed to give physical aftercare to stroke and heart patients discharged from hospital.</p> <p>Details of any contracts relevant to the physical patient aftercare of heart and stroke patients and cost, if possible.</p> <p>Details of what these companies are paid to provide for stroke and heart patients. Including the cost of providing a walking stick.</p> <p>If heart and stroke aftercare is in-house, please provide the same costings and data as above.</p>
FOI 23-635	30/11/2023	<p>Wales NHS waiting lists</p> <p>Could you please tell me the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board waiting lists are on the operations below: Abdominal hernia Hernia repairs Cataract surgery Hip replacement Knee replacement MRI scans Has Aneurin Bevan University Health Board any plans to reduce waiting lists by paying for patients either to: 1. Pay for patients to receive operations in England? 2. Attend private hospitals in Wales? OR 3. Or use any other NHS Wales facilities?</p>
FOI 23-676	15/12/2023	<p>Scope: 2022/2023</p> <p>Could you please supply a list of ABUHB contractors - involved in ANY patient aftercare - and give a brief contractual description of why they are</p>

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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg heb oedi.
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan yw enw gweithredol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan.

Dyfodol Clinigol
Clinical Futures

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Headquarters, St Cadoc's Hospital
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We welcome correspondence in Welsh and we will respond in Welsh without delay.
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is the operational name of Aneurin Bevan University Local Health Board.

		<p>employed, as this must be on record for audit, payments and the initial choice of company, chosen over others.</p> <p>You may be able to direct me to a publically accessible list of all AHUHB contractors, or AHUHB audit of such, to reduce any time taken to search.</p> <p>If you need any clarification of my request, I would be pleased to assist you.</p>
FOI 23-635-02	23/01/2024	<p>Regarding the recent long waiting lists quoted below I would like to read committee decisions on WHY ABUHB has decided not to reduce waiting listsby using private, or any other means, to reduce these lists.</p> <p>Patients</p> <p>Date</p> <p>Average wait time (weeks)</p> <p>Hernia surgery</p> <p>1,368</p> <p>5.12.23</p> <p>60 weeks (day case)</p> <p>100 weeks</p> <p>(inpatient)</p> <p>There are no plans for patients to receive operations in England, attend private hospitals in Wales or use any other NHS facilities.</p> <p>Cataract</p> <p>1,640</p> <p>4.1.24</p> <p>116 weeks</p> <p>surgery</p> <p>There are no plans for patients to receive operations in England or attend private hospitals in Wales.</p> <p>The Health Board is currently working regionally with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board in respect of Ophthalmology services.</p> <p>Hip</p> <p>1,512</p> <p>24.11.23</p> <p>replacement</p> <p>Knee</p> <p>2,301</p> <p>24.11.23</p> <p>replacement</p> <p>There are no plans for patients to receive operations in England, attend private hospitals in Wales or use any other NHS facilities. .</p> <p>MRI scans*</p> <p>3,458</p> <p>4.1.24</p> <p>6 weeks (urgent)</p> <p>15 weeks (routine)</p> <p>*Unscheduled Care average test wait time 10 days</p>
FOI 24-202	06/02/2024	<p>Scope:</p> <p>- Cataract surgery involves replacing the cloudy lens inside your eye with an artificial one.</p> <p>Time element : The last year (from today)</p> <p>Since no information is apparently available on the choices between lenses that patients will be asked to make - pre-operation:</p>

		<p>Please state:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which lenses were used in cataract replacements in the last year? 2. How many of each lens was used? 3. What make they were? 4. The written description of how each lens differs from other lenses provided for ABUHB operations, which must be given to patients - for agreement to operate.
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Our Response

We have assessed your requests and have established that we do hold some information relating to your requests, and you have been provided a response to 23-552, 23-635, 23-676 and 23-635-02.

Under the Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations public authorities are able to aggregate two or more requests where they relate to any extent, to the same or similar information, provided certain conditions are met. These are where the Freedom of Information requests:

1. are made by one person, or by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign;
2. are received within any period of 60 consecutive working days.

Under Section 12(4) of the FOI Act, provided these conditions are met, the Health Board is permitted to regard the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them for the purpose of considering whether complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

We are therefore applying exemption 12(4) to your latest requests for information with references 24-202 which relate to cataract surgery and payments made to nursing homes. To comply with your recent requests and considering your previous requests made within 60 consecutive working days, we have established that this would exceed the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which is currently £450. This is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.